

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Themes – January 27, 2022 10:28PM

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Convoy Overview:

- The demonstration is comprised of 3 "Freedom Convoys", one from Western Canada, one from Eastern Canada and a third from Southern Ontario.
- The goal of the nation wide protest is to disrupt traffic flow and general business of government in the hopes that the Canadian government will lift all COVID-19 related restrictions.
- Information suggests the convoys will meet in Toronto on January 27th, drive the 401 highway to Kingston, then stage in Arnprior on January 28th, converging to Ottawa at noon on January 29th on Parliament Hill.
- Key timelines as of right now are as follows:
 - January 28: Staging in Arnprior
 - January 29 – 11:00: Public speakers scheduled in Confederation Park
 - January 29 – 12:00: Converge on Parliament Hill
 - January 30 – 11:00: Church service in Confederation Park
- We can expect a major traffic impact heading into this weekend and possibly into next week. There are reports that truck demonstrations are already slowing and stopping traffic throughout Canada.

Operational Planning:

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Given the multi jurisdictional impacts of this large scale demonstration on the NCR, all key stakeholders (RCMP, OPP, OPS, PPS, SQ, MRC des Collines, the City of Ottawa, Ville de Gatineau, SPVG) are actively planning and collaborating to ensure public safety.

- NCRCC activation is now scheduled to commence at 0800hrs on 2022-01-28.
- Efforts are underway to bring 75 operational resources into the NCR from C and O Division to further support operations. Accommodations in the NCR have been secured.

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- The **National Capital Region Command Centre (NCRCC)** will be activated as of ~~13:00~~ on January 28th, through to at least January 30th.
- All key internal and external stakeholders will have a presence in the Regional Command Centre to ensure ongoing communication and collaboration. While the NCRCC will also serve as the area command centre for the RCMP, forward command centres are being stood up at alternate locations by OPS and PPS with direct linkages into the NCRCC.
- In addition to domestic partners, a representative from the US Embassy will be in the Command Centre given the potential impacts on that diplomatic site.
- The Ottawa Police, and PPS, with support from the OPP have a vehicle screening process for the downtown core, and can support of to 3000 vehicles for inspection.
- The 2 lanes surrounding Parliament are controlled at sites on Kent and Banks street, with mobile command centers set up. (POJ and PPS)
- Given the resumption of Parliament scheduled for 2022-01-31, contingency plans are being developed to ensure supplemental resources are available and to minimize the potential for ongoing disruptions.
- Details have been finalized regarding increased patrols surrounding the Leader of the Opposition party's residence. Additional discussions are under way with Corporate Security at the House of Commons to explore enhanced situational awareness.
- Request to DND for air support will be held in abeyance. The RCMP C Division helicopter has been made available for 24/7 usage and Transport Canada has offered up a helicopter, should it be required.
- A very detailed plan regarding the vehicles travelling to the NCR has been put in place following the Intersect call on 2022-01-27. Various road blockages and check points have been enacted.

Public Order:

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- The **Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS)** is the planning lead for the **Parliamentary Precinct and the grounds of Parliament Hill**;
- The **Ottawa Police Service (OPS)** is leading the planning for the **National Capital Region**;
- **National Division** is planning in support of the RCMP's **protective mandate** and working to ensure that we support our law enforcement partners in the region with any specialized support services required.

RCMP Protective Mandate:

The RCMP's role is to maintain is Protective policing core VIP duties at all times

- OSGG has advised that the Governor General wishes to remain at Rideau Hall in the private quarters. The Close Protection and site postures will be adjusted accordingly.
- PM is isolating, following CoVid exposure, at Harrington **Lake**.
- The Protective Operations Coordination Centre (POCC) will be reaching out to the Ministers offices on a weekly basis to obtain schedules and assess the need for the deployment of protective measures.
- Details have been finalized regarding increased patrols surrounding the Leader of the Opposition party's residence. Additional discussions are under way with Corporate Security at the House of Commons to explore enhanced situational awareness.
- These Ministers/individuals currently have **s37**
 - Minister JOLY
 - Minister FREELAND
 - Minister [DUCLOS](#)
 - Minister MENDICINO
 - Minister GUILBEAULT
 - Minister BLAIR
 - Minister MILLER
 - Minister [ANAND](#)
 - Minister [ALGHABRA](#)
 - [Dr. Theresa TAM.](#)

PPS:

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OPS:

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- OPS has advised that, in addition to the larger demonstration in the downtown core, organizers are planning additional events on January 29th and 30th in Confederation Park, which will serve as the home base for some participants.
- OPS has advised that Confederation Park will be used as the home base for some participants. This includes the installation of tents, food vendors (2 trucks) and a BBQ in the Park.
- An active plan for the demounting of truck trailers has also been established by the OPS

RCMP National Division:

- National Division's Critical Incident Program (CIP), which includes the Protective Operations Response Unit, Emergency Response Team, Tactical Support Group, Crisis Negotiation Team, Critical Incident Commanders, Scribes and the Tactical Paramedic Unit are actively engaged in the planning process.
- The staging of RCMP public order resources and any other specialized operational support from the RCMP will be done in a discrete manner. At this time, we have not received a formal request for support from PPS or OPS, however, it is expected that these requests will be forthcoming as interagency planning evolves.
- RCMP National Division have an additional 6 teams ready to be deployed as needed, and an additional 15 members on standby
- In light of the cancelled trip to Quebec City, C Division is providing 8 Close Protection resources to supplement the posture throughout the weekend. These resources will be arriving into the NCR on 2022-01-28 and accommodations for them have been arranged.
- Division Close Protection resources, while not required at this time, will remain available should our posture require it.
- The NPF has engaged National Division and has expressed support with the planning and communication efforts that have taken place to date. They have been invited to attend the NCRCC at any point during its activation.
- The RCMP is on standby to deploy any additional tactical troop or additional kinetic nature emergency dealings if required.

Intelligence and Open Source:

- It is still unclear what the group from the South convoy will be doing in Ottawa on 2022-01-29 once they arrive.
- Convoy members appear to be stocking up on food and supplies which could indicate that they have long term plans to stay in Ottawa.
- The Honourable Erin O'Toole (Official Leader of the Opposition) has publicly indicated that he intends on meeting with truckers participating in the convoy but that this would occur outside of the downtown core.

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- The Go Fund Me page currently sits at over \$6.1M and media is now reporting that Go Fund Me has agreed to release \$1M to the organizers.
- There has been an increase in social media posts from users suggesting that violence should be used if the government does not acknowledge the convoy. **No substantiated threats or credible plans have been identified at this time.**
- OSINT has identified numerous SM posts from extremist groups (Plaid Army, Diagonol, and Canada First) indicating that they will be present in the NCR, as part of the convoy.
- While event details continue to evolve, there is nothing to indicate a fixed timeframe for egress from the NCR. At this time, organizers are suggesting that they will remain in the NCR until the government changes the vaccine mandate.
- The RCMP has located social media posts indicating some participants may stay around the downtown core until January 31st in hopes to disrupt the House of Common's sitting that day.
- Although the majority of information indicates organizers are planning a peaceful event, many social media posts suggest some participants may attempt to disrupt government buildings and further cause disruptions throughout the city.
- Twitter posts suggest that the convoys may at some point converge near 24 Sussex Drive to continue their protest.
- With respect to the threat picture, there has been an increase in online narratives supportive of the convoy among both ideologically motivated networks, as well as in general public discourse.
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- Open Source reports also suggest police are setting up roadblocks outside Ottawa, and such reports seem to fuel some trucker's agitation. A post to the event Facebook group asks for known MP's addresses in Ottawa including the Prime Minister's residence and cottage. The posts suggest the convoy should break apart to protest at all these locations.
- The convoy is attracting individuals who are not aligned with any specific ideology or group, but who have experienced personal hardships (such as job loss) due to COVID-19 and are upset with provincial or federal government responses as COVID-19 continues to impact daily life.
- Open Source monitoring has identified associated posts advocating violence and there is potential for anti-government groups to join the demo with violent intentions. Online posts associated with the convoy continue to feed the conspiracy narrative with misinformation and disinformation which raises tensions with protestors.
- In addition, Open Source reports suggests truck drivers from the U.S. plan to join the Canadian demonstration with the possible intent to cause further disruption.
- Estimates on social media have claims that up to 1 million people are coming to Ottawa. These numbers are in no way reliable.

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- As of January 26, 2022, over \$5.2M has been raised via GOFUNDME. The funds are being withheld until the event organizer is able to provide the documentation explaining how the funds will be properly distributed.
- The RCMP Protective Operations Coordination Center (POCC) has reported a strong resentment on multiple social media platforms, targeting Prime Minister TRUDEAU, Minister of Transport Omar ALGHABRA and politicians in general.

Current Statistics:

- As of 2022-01-27, the OPP have confirmed the following numbers of vehicles taking part in convoys converging into the NCR:
 - West Convoy (Thunder Bay-Sault Ste. Marie): 471
 - South Convoy D (Niagara – Kingston): 100
 - Hearst Convoy: 10

Analysis of estimated trucks to arrive in Ottawa on January 28, 2022:

- Calgary: estimated 20-25 trucks departed (Calgary PS, Jan. 25)
- Regina: estimated 1200 trucks were involved in demonstration (Regina PS, Jan. 26)
- SQ: 1000 to 1500 trucks to arrive in Ottawa with possibly 3600 people to attend the demonstration (Jan. 26)
- The Western Convoy was comprised of approximately 830 vehicles when it crossed the Manitoba-Ontario border on Jan 25., 200 of which are reported to be private.
- OPP continues to track 11 different convoys currently converging in the province of Ontario and are estimating that they will arrive in the NCR on Jan. 28 at 1530hrs.
- The “PEI Freedom Convoy to Ottawa 2022” will be departing for the NCR on Jan. 27. At this time, the size of this convoy is unknown.
- **TOTAL: 2725 trucks**
- It is unknown how many on foot demonstrators will be present at the Hill, there is not a current best guess. **Trucks will park and truckers will be on foot.

Communications:

- OPS and the City of Ottawa are holding their media briefing at 1100hrs on 2022-01-28. Chief Peter Soly and Acting Deputy Chief Trish Ferguson from Ottawa Police along with Kim Ayotte, General Manager of the City of Ottawa's Emergency and Protective Services will be present and it can be viewed online at:
- **English:** www.youtube.com/cityottawa/live
- **French:** www.youtube.com/villedottawa/live
- The common hashtag **#demoGatOtt / #manifOttGat** has also been created for NCR security partners to use, as deemed appropriate.
- The Sergeant-At-Arms issued an email earlier this evening, to all Parliamentarians, advising them of the demonstration and asking that they take the necessary precautions to ensure their safety and the safety of the general public.

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- The Ottawa Police Service has set up a website dedicated to providing information and updates surrounding the Freedom Convey 2022 demonstrations:
<https://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/news-and-community/weekend-demonstration-information-and-updates.aspx>
- The City of Ottawa has also set up a website for residents:
<https://ottawa.ca/en/news/expected-demonstration-will-result-weekend-downtown-travel-disruptions>
- National Division met with the communications representatives from all partner law enforcement agencies to finalize communication approaches. The Division is actively sharing and cross posting on all Social Media platforms, in order to support partner agencies.
- National Division communications will be meeting with the NCC and OSGG communications representatives during the am on 2022-01-28, to finalize details surrounding messaging requirements surrounding the closure of the grounds of Rideau Hall.
- National Division and National Headquarters will be issuing messaging reminding employees of the potential for significant traffic disruptions this weekend, asking that they ensure that they are prepared in the event a broader mobilization is required and reiterating the importance of ensuring that employees refrain from self deploying.
- Ottawa Police Service plans on hosting a media briefing on 2022-01-28, time TBC, with their Acting Deputy Chief Trish Ferguson. An invitation was extended to all partner agencies, however, at this time it appears as though this will be limited to OPS.
- On January 26th, OPS issued a Public Service Announcement advising the public that significant traffic disruptions are to be expected in the NCR this week and that there will be a heightened police and emergency service presence in the downtown core and on major highways and roads. They're encouraging residents to follow the city's traffic management tool (@Ottawa_Traffic) for real time updates.
- The Canadian Trucking Alliance has issued a statement saying they do not support the current convoy.
- Aware that MPs in Ottawa are concerned with individuals showing up at their residences, the RCMP in consultation with the Sergeant-at-Arms is coordinating a message to MPs that are consistent with our protocols:
 - If there is an imminent threat, call 9-1-1 immediately;
 - For all other incidents, contact the Sergeant-at-Arms; and,
 - Sergeant-at-Arms will coordinate with the community, including the RCMP.
- The RCMP's Ministerial Liaison Team will continue to proactively communicate and reach out to Ministers offices to assess the need for the deployment of protective measures

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Specific Minister Concerns

Minister ALGHABRA

- Minister Alghabra (Minister of Transport) has now been s.37 and, at this time, will not be in the NCR until 2022-01-29.
- On January 21, 2022, the Minister's s.37 s.37
- The RCMP's Ministerial Liaison Team was in contact with Minister ALGHABRA's office (Mike Maka, COS) on Wednesday, January 19 and again on Monday, January 24. The Minister's COS will share a copy of the Minister's itinerary with the POCC. Minister ALGHABRA will be in his home riding of Mississauga this week and will be in Ottawa the week of January 31.
- The PoJ (Peel Regional) has been informed of the situation and are engaged. The Minister will try to do most meetings from home, but should he have any events, they will ensure to notify the RCMP. They were very appreciative of our efforts. As of January 21, 2022, Minister ALGHABRA s.37 s.37

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- The Sergeant-At-Arms has distributed an email message to MP's with Constituency offices in the NCR, advising them of the potential disruptions and the precautions that can be taken to ensure their safety. It is expected that a similar message will be distributed to all Parliamentarians and Parliamentary employees.

Minister ANAND

- Minister Anand is to travel to Kyev on January 20th alongside the Chief of Defence and staff.
- Minister Anand **will not** be provided with IPO for her visit to Kyiv; **HOWEVER, this is being revisited 2022-01-27.**

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- This is the similar stance as Min. Joly's visit last week.
- POCC determined that Kyiv is stable – for now but if this changes then it would be a war zone for which our members are not equipped. We also have a duty of care to our members.

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Dr. Theresa TAM

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Minister DUCLOS

- Minister Duclos (Minister of Health) has requested assistance getting to and from Parliament Hill on 2022-01-31.

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